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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. Patent Application of**

**WATANABE et al.**

**Application Number: 10/720,178**

**Filed: November 25, 2003**

**For: DATA DISTRIBUTION METHOD, DATA SEARCH  
METHOD, AND DATA SEARCH SYSTEM**

**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. HIRA.0131**

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**Art Unit 1616**

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**LETTER**

Sir:

The below-identified communications are submitted in the above-captioned application or proceeding:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Priority Documents                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement w/1449 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Priority                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.47(a)                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Notice of<br>Non-Compliant Amendment | <input type="checkbox"/> Check for \$ 0.00                                  |

- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, including fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account Number 08-1480**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher  
Registration Number 24,344

Juan Carlos A. Marquez  
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(703) 641-4200  
August 18, 2005



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|---|---|----------------------|
| <b>In re U.S. Patent Application of</b>           | ) |                      |
|   | ) |                      |
| <b>WATANABE et al.</b>                            | ) | <b>Art Unit 1616</b> |
|   | ) |                      |
| <b>Application Number: 10/720,178</b>             | ) |                      |
|   | ) |                      |
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|   | ) |                      |
| <b>For: DATA DISTRIBUTION METHOD, DATA SEARCH</b> | ) |                      |
| <b>METHOD, AND DATA SEARCH SYSTEM</b>             | ) |                      |
|   | ) |                      |
| <b>ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. HIRA.0131</b>              | ) |                      |
|   | ) |                      |
| <b>Honorable Assistant Commissioner</b>           |   |                      |
| <b>for Patents</b>                                |   |                      |
| <b>Washington, D.C. 20231</b>                     |   |                      |

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified, is submitted herewith.

**CERTIFICATION**

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after three months of the filing date but prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action of the above-captioned U.S. patent application. Accordingly, no fee is due or payable at this time.

It is also hereby certified that each item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

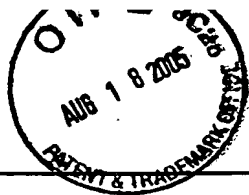
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,

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| Form PTO 1449<br><br>U.S. Department of Commerce Patent<br>and Trademark Office<br><br>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant | ATTY. DOCKET NUMBER | SERIAL NUMBER |
|  | HIRA.0131           | 10/720,178    |
|  | APPLICANT           |               |
|  | WATANABE et al.     |               |
|  | FILING DATE         | GROUP         |
|  | November 25, 2003   | 1616          |

## U.S. Patent Documents

| Examiner<br>Initial |  | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB-<br>CLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------|--|-----------------|------|------|-------|---------------|-------------|
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |               |             |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |               |             |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |               |             |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |               |             |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |               |             |

## Foreign Patent Documents

| Examiner<br>Initial |  | DOCUMENT NUMBER | FILING DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB-<br>CLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|---------------------|--|-----------------|-------------|---------|-------|---------------|-------------|----|
|                     |  |                 |             |         |       |               | YES         | No |
|                     |  | WO 01/13105 A1  | 07/28/2000  | PCT     |       |               | X           |    |
|                     |  |                 |             |         |       |               |             |    |
|                     |  |                 |             |         |       |               |             |    |
|                     |  |                 |             |         |       |               |             |    |

## Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|  |  |  |
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|  |  | Eckman et al., "The Merck Gene Index Browser: An Extensible Data Integration System for Gene Finding, Gene Characterization and EST Data Mining", Oxford University Press, (1998) Vol. 14, No. 1, pps. 2-13. |
|  |  | W. Fujibuchi et al., "DBGET/Link DB: An Integrated Database Retrieval System", GenomeNet, (1998), pps. 683-694   |
|  |  | "How to Use DBGET", Institute for Chemical Research, Kyoto University, (2002), pps. 1-4  |
|  |  | R. Apweiler et al., "Introduction to Molecular Biology Databases", European Bioinformatics Institute, (1999), pps. 1-26  |
|  |  | European Search Report dated August 1, 2005  |
| EXAMINER   |  | DATE CONSIDERED  |
| <i>Examiner: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant</i> |  |  |

PTO 1449